

REMARKS

1. The Office Action has rejected Claims 1 – 12, and 14 – 18 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 4,478,396 (Kawaura) in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,471,179 (Tousi). The Office Action states that Kawaura shows the state of the prior art in Fig. 1 to include upper and lower members of two disparate elastomeric materials, while Tousi teaches the use of MCU for the isolation mount and natural or butyl rubber for a bushing. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

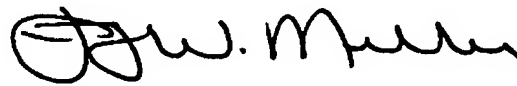
Applicant would direct the Examiner's attention to the amendments previously made to Claims 1 and 7, to further define Applicant's invention over the cited prior art reference. More particularly, these amended independent claims define a specific body mount assembly having disparate soft and hard elastomeric members with a fastener passing through a central opening formed in each of the elastomeric members and a retainer member coupled to the fastener to clamp the upper and lower members on opposing sides of the mounting bracket with the lower member being positioned between the mounting bracket and the retainer member to isolate the mounting bracket from the retainer member.

Applicant respectfully submits that this particular combination of elements to form an automotive body mount is not taught or suggested by either of the cited prior art references, whether taken singly or in combination. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn with respect to Claims 1 – 4 and 7 – 11. Claims 12 and 14 – 18 have been canceled from the application.

2. In summary, Claims 12 and 14 – 18 have been canceled, and Claims 1 – 4 and 7 – 11 remain in the application. Applicant believes that the claims are allowable based on the foregoing amendments. Applicant respectfully requests that all rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn and that all claims remaining in this case be allowed.

Pursuant to currently recommended Patent Office practice, the Examiner is expressly authorized to call the undersigned attorney if in his judgment disposition of this application could be expedited or if he considers the case ready for final disposition by other than allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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